Unintended benefit on drug formulations

2269. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state·

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of instances have come to the notice of his Ministry of unintended benefit accruing to the producers of formulations on account of procuremnet price of bulk drug being lower than the price on which formulation prices are fixed;

(b) if so, what are the details of such instances and action taken;

(c) what are the reasons and rationale for removal of this pre-consumer measure from DPCO, 1987;

(d) what is the genesis of such an action without even bringing the implications to anybody's notice; and

(e) what is the thinking of present Govenrment on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Prices of bulk drugs as fixed by the Government are maximum sale prices. Manufacturers are free to sell at prices not exceeding the prices fixed by the Government. Possibility of some bulk drugs being sold at prices lower than Government fixed prices based on forces of demand and supply cannot be ruled out.

(c) to (e) The aspect referred to would be kept in view while reviewing the existing drug policy. Such a review is already in progress.

Direct dealings with the manufacturers and suppliers of equipment and materials

2270. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has recently taken a decision to deal directly with the manufacturers and suppliers of equipment and materials and ban the middlemen or agents;

(b) if so, what are the details of equipment and materials supplied by the middlemen or agents to the various units under his Ministry during the last three yeais; and

(c) what are the details of the fresh guidelines issued in this regard and wnat further steps Government propose to take to implement the same effectively?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (c) No, Sir. However, the matter of issuing suitable guidelines in this regard is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise. However, it may be stated that equipments and materials are seldom supplied by the middlemen or agents, themselves or directly, to the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the administrative control of this Department.

National Advisory Panel for formulating the national industrial policy

2271. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Advisory Panel with representatives of State Governments for formulating national industrial policy for the country from time to time;

(b) whether any proposals have been received in this regard from the State Governments; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Incidence of dengue fever

2272. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been several outbreaks of Dengue fever in Delhi and